

NEW YORK PAGE 17

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1915-TWENTY PAGES.

ONE CENT.

REPLY OF BRITAIN IN WILSON'S HANDS

No. 19,865.

Response to U. S. Note Concerning Interference With American Commerce.

DENIES INTERRUPTION OF LEGITIMATE TRADE

tions on Part of Allies-Legal Questions Discussed.

The full text of Great Britain's sup-The long document, comprising on have not been completed, pending away with nearly \$2,000.

Besides giving statistics on neutral and entering a general devarranted interference with legit tains a statement from Great Brit ain that the recent government de-cree taking over the flour and grain supply in Germany required added pre-cautions on the part of the allies that conditional contraband might not be permitted to reach the armed forces

put her sea war zone proclamation into effect February 18. That she would recede from her position if England would meet her demands in regard to food shipments was announced by the German ambassador here. Count von Bernstorff, in a note to the American State Department, which immediately transmitted the proposal to London. Germany's proposition was sent almost simultaneously with a telegram from the State Department to the British government submitting evidence by owners of the American steamer Wilhelmina that the vessel's food cargo, now held for a British prize court, is destined for German non-combatants, and suggesting that it be permitted to go forward.

The situation, already complicated,

mouncement yesterday in the house of commons by Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the British admiralty, that Great Britain is considering even more stringent measures to prevent Germany from receiving food supplies from other countries.

From the German point of view, the Wilhelmina constitutes a test case on which revolves the entire question of feeding Germany. The German manassador are in a recent note to the American government pointed out that Germany had modified its decre so that imported food-stuffs would not be taken over by the government, and suggesting that American organization or consular officers be appointed to supervise the distribution of the imported food-stuffs, as a guarantee that none of the American shipments would reach the armed forces of Germany.

Serious Situation for U. S. Commerce

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, discussed the situation with State Department officials. On all sides it is admitted here that the developments of the last few days present a most serious situation for American commerce. Additionally a situation for American commerce and two men in a boat went in the direction of Benning bridge about 5 o'clock yesterday morning, fully one hour after the robbers was perpetrated.

It was suggested by some of the policemen engaged in the investigation that crossing the river in a boat might indicate that the robbers did not be long in this city, and that they went in that direction to board a freight train to get away from this vicinity.

Jeremiah Hagerty, depot clerk at the articles in the possession of the police. They say that some of the articles resemble what was worn by the robbers, but they are not able to identify positively any of them.

Commenting upon the affair, an interested person called attention to the fact that there was not a weapon of any kind in the office of the car barn to be used in defending the company's property, while the robbers went about the city at will a ramed with weapons enough to put up a strong fight.

of the last few days present a most serious situation for American commerce. Administration officials think that even ally by Germany that neutral ships will not be attacked, the effect of the war zone proclamation will be to intimidate American shippers and reduce American ex-

That the next step by the United That the next step by the United States may be a pronounced statement to Great Britain on the subject of conditional contraband was indicated at the State Department. The American government in its first note argued strongly for unrestricted shipment of conditional contraband when the state of the state conditional contraband when destined to non-combatants. The British pre-liminary reply did not oppose this view, but said an unconditional ac-ceptance could not be given on account of Germany's alleged inhuman prac-tices.

Prove Right of Exemption.

In connection with the latest representations to London regarding the Wilhelmina, officials said today that attorneys for the owners of the Wilhel-mina's cargo established to the satis-Emden Officer and Forty of Crew fact that it is not intended for the German army or the German government, which would except it from seizure under the declaration of London, I was pointed out that the record also discloses the fact that the cargo was dispatched before the British government issued its official notice that food supplies for Germany would be regarded as contraband.

Great Britain notified the United States last evening, through the British embassy here, that subjects of her enemies, whether crew or passengers of vessels, entering the principal British colonial ports will be liable in the future to removal and detention.

ON TRIAL FOR HIGH TREASON.

Gen. De Wet and Others Alleged

Leaders of South African Revolt.

BLOEMFONTEIN, via London, February 16.—The trial of Gen. Christian De Wet and other leaders of the South African rebellion against Great Britain, of the southwest coast of Arabia, with von Muecke and his men.

Drashwterian Conneil in Session

African rebellion against Great Britain, who are charged with high treason

Gen. De Wet, the leader of the rebellion, was captured December 1 on a farm at Waterburg, British Bechuanaland, whither he had been pursued by a motor car brigade. Since that time nearly all the other commanders of the insurrectionary forces have been captured or surrendered.

evangelistic and church extension work of the Presbyterian Church (northern) was considered today at a meeting of the national home mission council, which began a two-day session here. Leaders from all parts of the United States were in attendance.

THINK FIND IS CLUE TO CAR BARN THEFT

Police Discover on River Bank Revolvers, Sack, Blackjack and Cartridge Belt.

FOUR SUSPECTS HELD: GIRL FRIENDS SOUGHT

Alleges Necessity for Added Precau- Offer of \$200 Reward Stimulates President Confers With Senators Search for Robbers Who

Got \$2,000. elementary reply to the American note a blue steel revolver, a cheap pistol, belt

concerning interfer- of cartridges, wig, piece of rubber hos sack and other articles are held at the natic code after several days of that some of them may belong to the to the White House by Secretary his assistant at the East Capitol street

Maddox, twenty-six years old E. Curren, twenty-nine years old, steam fitter, 225 D street northwest, and John Waters, twenty-one years old, mechanic

Waters, twenty-one years old, mechanic, 225 D street northwest.
Maddox and Shook are friends, the police say, and after their arrest last night search was made of the house at 604 D street, but no trace of money or car tickets was found. The police found a pair of gloves that are said to resemble the gloves worn by the robber who collected the money and car tickets and

Seeking Young Women.

Search is being made for several young

Lieut. Bremerman, who led a party of officers in the search for the robbers, learned that two men had been seen going in the direction of the Eastern branch near the smallpox hospital and jail, and, it is said, footprints similar to those found on the lot at 14th and A streets yesterday morning were trailed in the direction of the water.

On the river bank the police found the gunny sack and other articles that

failed to learn that any boats were the majority leader wanted to show missing, they said, but did learn that two men in a boat went in the directive men in a boat went in the directive missing. "It is," said Mr. Underwood, "but the pencer Churchill, two men in a boat went in the direc-

Business Houses Unprotected.

It developed yesterday that a number of large business houses were without such protection, and, it is stated, a number of them quickly made purchases of such weapons for possible future use. Had the office of the car nearest police station yesterday mornis possible that a policeman would have been on hand before the

A meeting between the robbers and policemen, it is believed, would have resulted in a pistol fight similar to the one in which Sergt. Lohman and Detective Cole engaged early Sunday morn

Maj. Sylvester's offer of a reward of bers has been communicated to the police department of other cities and county officers in many

county officers in nearby states. RECEIVE THE IRON CROSS.

Emden Officer and Forty of Crew

Presbyterian Council in Session.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., February 16 .- The

HOUSE LAUNCHES WILSON SHIP BILL

"Gag" Rule Limiting Debate to Six Hours Jammed Through, 186 to 139.

SIXTEEN DEMOCRATS BOLT, **BUT MAJORITY IS FIRM**

Kern and Stone and Asks Measure Be Pressed.

President Wilson's fight for his ship bill was launched in the House today firm they would have a new measur bearing the approval of the administration and probably attractive to some republicans ready for the Senate be fore the end of today's session. The House adopted the "gag" rule, limiting debate to six hours, by a vote

of 186 to 139. Meanwhile the Senate marked time, di cussing a cloture rule, committees showed great activities on the long-delayed ap

Confers With Senators.

question of an extra session, and only third Congress.

The President conferred with Senators Kern and Stone, and afterward Mr. Kern intimated the democrats had definite plans for getting the bill through the Senate, but he refused to reveal details.

The President was told it will be possible to rush the appropriation bills through the Senate in three or four days.

Gag Rule Brought In.

The rules committee of the House me tion to rush the special gag rule to take up the ship purchase measure and jam it through the House. Old-time re at the speed with which the administra complained, to bind and gag the House

the House met. It was not changed from the rule as sorinally written and as it was approved by the caucus last night.

In addition to slipping the "gag" into the mouth of the minerity at

Saw Two Men in Boat.

Following the clue which led them to the river, the police made inquiry of boatmen to ascertain if any boats had been taken from the river front. They failed to learn that any boats were the majority has been taken from the river front. They failed to learn that any boats were the majority leader wanted to show the minority, a side calendar week of the mouth of the minority, a skide calendar week of the majority leader wanted to show the mouth of the minority, a skide calendar wanted to show the mouth of the minority, a skide calendar wanted to show the mouth of the minority, a skide calendar wanted to show the mouth of the minority, a skide calendar wanted to show the mouth of the minority, a skide calendar week.

matter here today."
"If the majority, intends to set aside so important a measure as the pension bill today, I do not think I can agree

Wednesday," said Representative Mann and the plans of the democrats were upset by one day at least. Democrats Hold Majority.

Democrats and republicans thereupon fell to talking about the time to be permitted in the debate. Chairman just twenty minutes to talk about the small that none of them would agree to it. Chairman Henry, with the whip in hand, then jumped to his feet and moved "the previous question.

Then followed a roll call, the first rea skirmish on the ship bill in the House administration winning out by a vot of 181 to 126. The effect of this wa of 181 to 126. The effect of this was to cut down debate on the pros and cons relating to the adoption of the "gag" rule to forty minutes, which is twenty minutes to each side—exactly what Chairman Henry proposed in the first place. Following that forty minutes came the vote for the adoption of the rule, which was carried by the vote of 186 to 139 vote of 186 to 139.

The rule itself allows six hours' de-

bate on the measure, and a vote is expected about 8 o'clock this evening.

The preliminary votes on the variou stages of the rule were in reality test of the strength of the majority, show ing a comfortable margin.

Sixteen Democrats Bolt.

Sixteen democrats voted against the "gag" rule, following their declaration to bolt the caucus last night. These were Borchers, Illinois, Donohoe, Penn-Gallivan, Massachusetts Moss, Indiana; Morrison, Indiana; Moss, Indiana; Morrison, Indiana; Shackleford, Missouri; Witherspoon and Sisson, Mississippi; Bathrick and Gord, Ohio; Brockson, Delaware; Broussard, Lousiana; Callaway, Texas; Gerry, Rhode Island; Kindel, Colorado, and Fitzgerald, New York. Democrats who voted present were Bartlett, Georgia; Dies, Texas; Beall, Texas, and Logue, Pennsylvania.

Cloture Amendments Discussed.

The opponents of the administration ship purchase bill in the Senate continued their filibuster all yesterday afternoon against the Reed resolution proposing cloture and a vote on the bill next Friday. About 6 o'clock a recess was taken until noon today. Pending before the Senate was Sen

stor Reed's resolution, with a general cloture substitute offered by Senator Norris to limit the debate of each sen ator on any bill to three hours, and ar amendment by Senator Cummins which

party had attempted to bind senators in caucus.

The amendments to the Reed resolution have caused considerable embarrassment to the democratic supporters of the bill. They realize that both the Cummins amendment and the Norris substitute would receive the support of Senators Norris and Kenyon, and possibly La Follette, upon whose votes the democrats must count to win through with the Reed resolution. They know also that some of the



TEUTONS CONTINUE TO GAIN ALONG ENTIRE EASTERN LINE

Desperate Fighting Reported to Accompany Advance of Austrians Through Passes of Carpathians.

LONDON, February 16, 12 noon.—The general offensive of the eutonic allies along the extended eastern front is continuing suc- patriot. He said that unless the essfully on both flanks, judging from reports reaching London, but Italian government decided to without any visible forward movement on the front toward Warsaw participate in the war there would Day in New Orleans and Mobile or in the Carpathians.

the Siva oasis.

ma, Mesopotamia.

Driven Across Border.

ALBANIANS REPULSED.

GERMANY SEIZES ALL OATS.

Further Step in Program for Con-

serving Food Supply.

BERLIN, via London, February 16.— The Bundesrat has decided to expro-

priate all the domestic stocks of oats

the grain necessary for fodder for

horses. The order becomes effective

DAY IN CONGRESS.

Senate.

Petrograd Admits Reverses.

of Bukowing, has not been received from German-Austrian offensive from Bukoany other source, but Petrograd admits wina to the Baltic. The Russians are officially that the Austrians are still ad- being rolled up in many portions of vancing in Bukowina in considerable force and that desperate fighting marks British divisions across the Suez canal the operations in the passes of the Car- at Ausum and Serpeum. pathlans, where the Russians are claiming minor successes resulting in the capture of men and munitions of war.

In East Prussia the Russians have not vet regained their fortified lines and the German advance while not checked, seems to British observers to be proceeding with less speed.

Claims 40,000 Prisoners.

BERLIN, February 16 (by wireless) The following announcement is made by

"Field Marshal von Hindenburg's third battle of the Mazurian lakes will prove more disastrous to the Russians than the other two, from present indications. It

FRENCH CONSUL FREED

Russians was reported in a dispate rom Berlin February 10, but was no confirmed.

AT REQUEST OF U. S ROME. February 16 .- A telegran from Hodeida, Arabia, says that the Turkish authorities, acting on the request of the American ambassador at Constantinople, Henry Morgenthau, Serbian frontier. More complete inhave freed the French vice consul, who had been detained at Sana, 100 miles Inland from Hodeida. The vice consul was permitted to return to the coast and was taken away by the French

armored cruiser Dupleix. Italian representative at Hodeida, the United States has no consular agent there, and is unable directly to loo after French interests.

NO BREAK WITH VATICAN.

Belgian Legation in Paris Makes Of ficial Denial of Rumor.

PARIS, February 16 .- The Matin re PARIS, February 16.—The Mathi ferently printed under reserve the statement that the Belgian government resembly broke off all relations with Mgr. Jean Tacci Porcelli, papal nuncio at Brussels, alleging that he nuncio at Brussels, alleging that he nuncio at Brussels, alleging that he nuncio at Brussels alleging that he norses. The order becomes enective February 16. The bundesrat also raised the maximum price of oats by 50 marks (\$12.50) per metric ton.

The action of the bundesrat also marks (\$12.50) per metric ton.

The action of the bundesrat also marks (\$12.50) per metric ton. gave a dinner to the Germans at the gave a dinner to the Germans at the palace of the nuncio at the time of the Cardinal Mercier incident.

The statement in the Matin later brought forth a note from the Belwheat and flour. palace of the nuncio at the time of the Cardinal Mercier incident.

gian legation here which said: "Certain rumors which have been cir culated intimating that strained relabassador and the Belgian governmen are absolutely unfounded."

Railways Seek 2 1-2 Cent Fare. DES MOINES, Iowa, February 16 .-

the democrats must count to win through with the Reed resolution.

They know also that some of the democratic senators supporting the ship bill might not be found voting (Continued on Second Page.)

Senger rates 1011 2 22 cents a line senate and the presented to Gov. Clarke and the legislature here this afternoon by officials of six railroads doing business in the state. The railroad committees of the house and the senate are to be present at the conference.

GARIBALDI SAYS ITALY

p.m.—The prophecy that Italy would mobilize her army within fortnight was made here today by Ricciotti Garibaldi, the Italian be a revolution.

MILAN, via Paris, February is believed that 40,000 Russians were cap-16.-The Italian government, as have reoccupied Czernowitz, the capital emy. Indications point to a general the result of reports that Austria was about to invade Roumania, says the Corriere Della Sera, has the line.
"Turkish advance guards drove back asked the governments at Vienna Bedouins invaded Egypt and occupied no attack will be made on Rou-"Turks defeated the British at Kur-

BOMB AT SOFIA BALL KILLS TWO, WOUNDS TEN

The Overseas News Agency quotes the Berliner Tageblatt as saying, in a dispatch from Budapest, that Austro BERLIN, by wireless to London, Feb-Hungarian forces have entered Czernowitz, the capital of Bukowina. The Russians are said to have been driven ristocracy are reported to have been cross the Pruth river and to have retreated toward Nowoselica, on the Rusbomb was exploded last night at a The evacuation of Czernowitz by the

SAYS A NISH REPORT New Jersey Will Vote on Issue Following Legislative Action.

PARIS, February 16 .- A Nish dispatch to the Havas Agency says:
"The Albanian raiders have been TRENTON, N. J., February 16 .- The senate today passed the woman sufrouted and driven back across the frage amendment to the state constituformation shows that the Albanians vere led into making the raid by Austrian priests and Mohammedan adversaries of Essad Pasha, the provisional president, by preaching a holy war. The movement is being directed by Turkish and German agents."

trage amendment to the state constitu-tion, 17 to 4.

The House passed the resolution two weeks ago, and both houses having acted favorably on the resolution last year the question will be submitted to the voters for acceptance or rejection in September next.

BUKOWINA IS EVACUATED Austro-Hungarian Embassy So Says

in Announcing Progress of Campaign Complete evacuation of Bukowina by Austro-Hungarian embassy here in information received from the foreign office in Vienna. The dispatch said: "In Russian Poland nothing has oc-curred. Fights in the Carpathians have with the exception of seed oats and taken their course.
"In Southeast Galicia yesterday we have taken possession of the enemies' positions and repulsed them in the

direction of Stanislaw.

"According to private announce ments, the whole of Bukowina ha ments, the whole of Burkowina has been evacuated by the enemy. Also Czernowitz has been evacuated. Our troops now stand before the gates of the city. The Russians have further retreated from Colomea."

UNDER THE U. S. FLAG.

Standard Oil Steamer, With American Crew, Sails for Lisbon.

NEW YORK, February 16.-The Star Committee to investigate charges of ard Oil tank steamer Moreni sailed toobbying against the ship bill held a

SHIPS NOW HEADED | BERLIN IS READY FOR DANGER ZONE

Four American Vessels Due in **Restricted Waters After** February 18.

THEIR PASSENGER LISTS MOUNT INTO HUNDREDS

Numerous Other Craft Under British and Neutral Flags Carry American Cargoes.

NEW YORK, February 16 .- Of the records show today that twenty-seven are due to be within the war zone de-clared by Germany against Great Britain on and after February 18, the day set to establish the zone.

Four ships of this fleet are American-owned and fly the American flag, and five of the steamers carry pas-sengers. The four American ships are he Surnga, which sailed for Gothen sailed for Copenhagen February 6; the Kansan, which sailed for London the 8th, and the Philadelphia of the American line, a passenger-carrying ship, which sailed last Saturday for Liver-

Many Passengers Aboard.

The four other vessels carrying pasengers are the Adriatic (British) of the White Star line, which should reach Liverpool late the 18th or the norning of the 19th; the Norwegian morning of the 19th; the Norwegian steamer Bergenofjord, bound for Bergen; the Cunarder Orduna (British), due at Liverpool about February 25, and the French liner Niagara, which sailed Sunday for Havre.

All the vessels were heavily laden with freight. The Philadelphia carried 250 passengers, the Adriatic 400 and the other three liners had fewer passengers aboard.

Six Sailed From Boston

BOSTON, February 16.—Six British steamers which sailed from here within he past fortnight are not due to reac their destinations in England or Scot-land before February 18, the day set MUST JOIN GREAT WAR

War zone around Great Britain.
Only one vessel, the Pretorian, which is scheduled to arrive at Glasgow February 18, carries passengers. The other ships are freighters, their cargoes consisting chiefly of foodstuffs. They include the John Bakke, due at Manchester February 18, Devonian, due at Liverpool February 20, Nintan, due at Manchester February 21; Anglian, due at London February 22, and Leo, due at Glasgow February 23. war zone around Great Britain.

MERRYMAKERS RULE MARDI GRAS CITIES

Given Over to Carnival Pleasures.

NEW ORLEANS, February 16 .- Mardi Gras day, marking the end of the reign of Rex, king of the carnival of 1915, was observed here today by a general suspension of business. The cotton exchange and all banks were closed, first merchant vessel which sinks a Gerand Berlin to give assurances that while the post office, for the first time in the history of the carnival, it was said, was operated under Sunday rules, remaining closed the greater part of

the day.

Traffic in the morning, with the exception of the Rex parade, was suspended on several blocks on Canal street and the thoroughfare was given over to hundreds of merrymakers in fantastic costumes. The celebration will end tonight with the parade of the Krewe of Comus and the Rex and Comus balls at the Athenaeum and the French opera house.

Merrymaking in Mobile.

the Bulgarian capital.

Advices received here state that those killed were the son of a former war minister and a daughter of the present war minister.

MOBILE, Ala., February 16.—The eighty-fifth anniversary of Mobile's Mardi Gras came to a close here today with brilliant pageants of the Knights of Revelvy and the state of Revelvy and the stat the subject of the parade of the former SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT PASSES dy" and the latter "On the Hog." Each loat was brilliantly decorated. Individual masking was the feature of the closing day and many thousands

midnight, "Evolution of the subject of the parade. VICTORY FOR TURKS CLAIMED.

Myths, among the most brilliant events of the day, ended the celebration at midnight, "Evolution of War" being

Bagdad Report Says British Infantry and Cavalry Were Repulsed.

BERLIN, February 16, via London. —A dispatch to a news agency from Bagdad says that in an engagement between the advance guard Turkish left wing and British infantry and cavalry the British withdrew. leaving seventeen men dead. The dispatch adds that the right

wing of the Turkish army succeeded in advancing as far as the woods near Korno. The Turks, it is asserted, cap-tured 500 camels. Only five Turks were wounded.

Tribute to Missouri Pioneers.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., February 16 .- A tablet to the memory of the pioneers of Missouri was unveiled at the Jefferson memorial in Forest Park here today under the auspices of the Miscouri So ciety of the Daughters of 1812. The ceremonies were combined with a cele-bration of one hundred years of peace between Great Britain and the United

Buffalo Stock Yards Quarantined. BUFFALO, N. Y., February 16 .- The

stock yards at East Buffalo will close this afternoon under state and federal day for Lisbon and Port Said, flying the American flag and with an American floot and mouth disease, and there appears to be some uncertainty as to when they will reopen. Federal and state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders.

Met at noon.

The administration ship bill was taken up under a rule limiting debate to six hours.

The action flag and with an American floot and mouth disease, and there appears to be some uncertainty as to when they will reopen. Federal and state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state under quarattee orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state and federal orders because of the reappearance of the reappearance of the reappearance of the respective orders because of the reappearance of the respective orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohibit the shipment orders prohibit the shipment of livestock from any state orders prohib

TO SUBMIT REPLY TO U. S. PROTEST

Described Semi-Officially in Berlin as "Firm But Friendly" in Its Tone.

DUTCH SHIPPERS WARNED OF DANGER TO NEUTRALS

Told That in Most Cases Submarines Cannot Tell Nationality of Vessels.

ADVISES WATCHING BRITISH

German Government Says Belief Pre vails That English Submarines Will Sink Neutrals to Bring About Complications.

RRITISH PLAN TO CUT GERMANY'S FOOD SUPPLY

LONDON, February 16, 4:46 p.m.-The prohibition against foodstuffs destined for Germany will be formally proclaimed by Great Britain either tonight or tomorrow, according to present expectations, and the government's retaliatory measures against the threatened German submarine "blockade" will go into immediate ef-

ROTTERDAM, via London, February 16, 12:48 p.m.-A dispatch to the Rotterdam Courant from Berlin says the German government will today dispatch to Washington its reply to the American note on the subject of American shipping in the declared war zone in British waters.

Dutch Shippers Warned.

nsul reproducing a note from Chancel

"In most cases German submarines wil e unable to distinguish between neutral fore, run the risk of destruction. In order to avoid losses, it is urgently necessary for neutral ships to keep away from the the British merchant fleet as unarmed or entitled to warning before attack, because merchantmen are equipped with guns, and a large reward has been offered to the

man submarine. "Germany will pursue the war in the manner announced until Great Britain acknowledges the rules of naval warfare

as fixed by the Paris and London declarations, or until the neutral powers force this acknowledgment from England." Fear a British Outrage.

BERLIN, February 16, by wireless to

ondon, 11:30 a.m.-An official state.

ment reading as follows was issued in Berlin today: "Insomuch as it is to the interest of Great Britain that conflicts arise be tween Germany and neutral powers, it is thou at in German shipping circles that English submarines, in order to about this end, may purposely sink one or more neutral ships. It is Great Britain has laid large quantities of mines against German : . marines. . The Cologne Gazette, a .nmenting to-

has arisen out of Germany's declara-

tion of a marine war zone around Eng-

land, says that the American note to Great Britain contains a demand the granting of which would at once reall dan; or of American shippin the Stars and Stripes few ships would carry this banner into the war zone waters. To recognize a ship as American would be equivalent to knowing

her as a neutral. The Cologne Volks Zeitung says Germany must wait patiently and show that February 18 will be a day of bitter Neutral Losses "Fairly Certain."

The commencement of operations in the waters designated by the German government as a war zone is waited here with the greatest eagerness as well as much curjosity. It appears likely, however, that it will be some days after February 18 before any news is received. Indeed, the Germania in an article which is reprinted by the Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, says it may be ten or fifteen days before the public is informed on the subject. It warns its readers not to place credence in rumors, but rather to wait for official reports, which will be based on reports from commanders of submarines.

The Germania considers the possibility that neutral ships will be destroyed as "fairly certain," but declares that they have had a proper warning. days after February 18 before any

Note "Friendly But Firm."

"The German reply to the American note is reported to be firm in tone, though friendly in form," says a state-The Lokal Anzeiger today published

of The Lokal Anzeiger today published an interview with James W. Gerard, the American ambassador to Germany, which reads as follows:
"I regard the relations today between our two countries calmly and with confidence, and I believe pending ques-